STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

THREE EMPIRE STATE PLAZA, ALBANY, NY 12223-1350

Internet Address: http://www.dps.state.ny.us

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LAWRENCE G. MALONE
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May 19, 2000 RECEIVED

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FCC MAIL ROOM

Hon. Magalie Roman Salas Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W., TW-B204F Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization - CC Docket No. 99-200

Dear Secretary Salas:

Enclosed are an original and four (4) copies of the Comments of the New York State Department of Public Service in the above-captioned proceeding. We have also filed these Comments electronically. Copies were mailed to the parties on the attached list.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth H. Liebschutz

Assistant Counsel

Enclosure

cc: All parties EHL.00:avy:99-200.ltr

No. of Copies rec'd O++
List A B C D E

James Lanni
Rhode Island Division
of Public Utilities
100 Orange Street
Providence RI 02903

Joel B. Shifman Maine Public Utility Commission State House Station 18 Augusta ME 04865

Charles F. Larken
Vermont Department of
Public Service
120 State Street
Montpelier VT 05602

Rita Barmen Vermont Public Service Board 112 State Street, Drawer 20 Montpelier VT 05620-2701

Keikki Leesment New Jersey Board of Public Utilities 2 Gateway Center Newark NJ 07102 Veronica A. Smith
Deputy Chief Counsel
Pennsylvania Public Utility
Commission
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg PA 17105-3265

Marlene L. Johnson
Chairperson
District of Columbia
Public Service Commission
717 14th Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20005

Telecommunications Report 1333 H Street, N.W. - 11th Floor West Tower Washington DC 20005

International Transcription Services, Inc. 1231 20th Street Washington DC 20036

Brad Ramsay NARUC 1101 Vermont Avenue Suite 200 Washington DC 20044 Magalie Roman Salas Secretary Federal Commmunications Commission The Portals 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554 Lawrence Strickling, Chief Common Carrier Bureau Federal Communications Commission The Portals 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

Camille Stonehill
State Telephone Regulation
Report
1101 King Street
Suite 444
Alexandria VA 22314

Alabama Public Service Commission P.O. Box 304260 Montgomery AL 36130-4260

Richard Collier Chief Counsel Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Pky. Nashville TN 37243-0505 Sandy Ibaugh
Indiana Utility
Regulatory Commission
901 State Office Bldg.
Indianapolis IN 46204

Ronald Choura
Michigan Public
Service Commission
6545 Mercantile Way
Lansing MI 48910

Mary Street
Iowa Utilities Board
Lucas Building
5th Floor
Des Moines IA 50316

Gary Evenson
Wisconsin Public
Service Commission
P.O. Box 7854
Madison WI 53707

Gordon L. Persinger
Missouri Public Service
Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

Sam Loudenslager
Arkansas Public Service
Commission
1200 Center Street
P.O. Box C-400
Little Rock AR 72203

Maribeth D. Swapp Deputy General Counsel Oklahoma Corp. Commission 400 Jim Thorpe Building Oklahoma City OK 73105

Marsha H. Smith
Idaho Public Utilities
Commission
Statehouse
Boise ID 83720

Edward Morrison
Oregon Public Utilities
Commission
Labor and Industries Bldg.
Room 330
Salem OR 97310

Mary Adu Public Utilities Commission of the State of California 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco CA 94102 Rob Vandiver
General Counsel
Florida Public Service
Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee FL 32399-0850

Glenn Blackmon
Washington U&TC
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr., S.W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia WA 98504-7250

Jeannie Grimes Common Carrier Bureau Federal Communications Commission The Portals 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington DC 20554

Myra Karegianes General Counsel Illinois Commerce Commission State of Illinois Building 160 No. LaSalle - Suite C-800 Chicago IL 60601-3104

Ann Seha Assistant Attorney General Manager, Public Utilities Division 121 7th Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul MN 55101 Robin McHugh Montana PSC 1701 Prospect Avenue P.O. Box 202601 Helena MT 59620-2601

Virginia State Corp. Commission P.O. Box 1197 Richmond VA 23201

Deonne Brunning Nebraska PSC 1200 N. Street Lincoln NE 68508 Janice M. Myles
Policy & Program Planning Division
Common Carrier Bureau
Room 5-C327
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.- TW-A325
Washington DC 20554

Diane Munns
Iowa Utilities Board
Lucas State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

Glen F. Ivey
Chairman
Maryland Public Service Commission
6 St. Paul Street
16th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202-6806

The Hon. Michael K. Powell Commissioner Federal Communications Commission The Portals 445 12th Street, S.W., 8th Fl Washington, D.C. 20554 The Hon. Gloria Tristani Commissioner Federal Communications Commission The Portals 445 12th Street, S.W., 8th Fl Washington, D.C. 20554

The Hon. William E. Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission The Portals 445 12th Street, S.W., 8th Fl Washington, D.C. 20554 The Hon. Susan Ness Commissioner Federal Communications Commission The Portals 445 12th Street, S.W., 8th Fl Washington, D.C. 20554 The Hon. Harold Furchgott-Roth Commissioner Federal Communications Commission The Portals 445 12th Street, S.W., 8th Fl Washington, D.C. 20554 Bill Allen Bell Atlantic Telephone Corp. 158 State Street Albany, New York 12207

Mary Liz Hepburn Bell Atlantic Telephone Corp. 1300 I Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005

John M. Lambros Kecia B. Lewis Lisa B. Smith MCI WorldCom, Inc. 1801 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20006

BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C.

In the Matter of CC Docket No. 99-200 Numbering Resource Optimization

> COMMENTS OF THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

> > Lawrence G. Malone General Counsel Public Service Commission of the State of New York Three Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12223-1350

Of Counsel: Elizabeth H. Liebschutz Assistant Counsel

Dated: May 17, 2000 Albany, New York

BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C.

In the Matter of)
Numbering Resource Optimization) CC Docket No. 99-200

COMMENTS OF THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

The New York State Department of Public Service (NYDPS) hereby responds to the Commission's Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, released March 31, 2000 in the above-captioned proceeding. Our comments are limited to the issues of 1) a utilization threshold for growth codes, 2) a cost-recovery mechanism for pooling costs, and 3) a requirement that carriers pay for numbers.

The New York State Public Service Commission, in an Order issued March 17, 2000, has addressed the utilization threshold that carriers should meet in order to obtain growth numbering resources. The Order requires carriers to demonstrate that they have achieved a 75% utilization rate for numbers in a rate center before they can obtain an additional NXX code in that rate center. Based on comments from numerous

 $^{^{1/}}$ Case 98-C-0689, Telephone Numbering Resources, Order Instituting State-Wide Number Pooling and Number Assignment and Reclamation Procedures (issued March 17, 2000), pp. 7-9, 12.

parties and our coordination with other states, the NYPSC concluded that 75% represents a reasonable level of utilization to require before a carrier can obtain additional number resources. Regardless of the level chosen, however, a utilization requirement cannot account for a sudden spike in demand (e.g., a new business needing 8000 numbers). Therefore, the utilization threshold should be evaluated together with the months-to-exhaust estimate and other evidence of demand to ensure that carriers with a bona fide need for numbers will be served.

Regarding thousands-block number pooling, the Commission seeks additional comment on the appropriate method of cost recovery and the magnitude of costs to be incurred. Although a methodology is needed to determine how carriers contribute to the cost of pooling administration, there is no need for a cost recovery mechanism. Most of the costs for modifications to accommodate thousands-block number pooling have been incurred in connection with local number portability, for which there is already a recovery mechanism. Any additional costs, such as those to change Operational Support Systems, should be minimal. Such costs should be considered ordinary costs of doing business not entitled to special recovery.

 $^{^{1/}}$ Comments of the New York State Department of Public Service, July 29, 1999, p. 12.

Comments of NYDPS May 17, 2000

The Commission also seeks comment on a proposal to charge for telephone numbers as a more efficient method of assigning numbers. Telephone numbers are a limited and valuable resource and should be treated as such. Although the proposal to charge for numbers may be premature at this time, it may become more critical as new uses for telephone numbers! become more widespread. Therefore, we support the North American Numbering Council plan to analyze a market-based approach to assigning numbers. We urge the Commission not to act, however, until the ramifications of this approach are fully explored.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence G. Malone General Counsel

Public Service Commission
of the State of New York
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223-1350

Lauren B Molon

Of Counsel: Elizabeth H. Liebschutz Assistant Counsel

Dated: May 17, 2000

Albany, New York